

Colorado State House of Representatives and Senate. In 1959 he was appointed by President Eisenhower as U.S. Attorney for Colorado.

In 1963, as the nominee for the Republican Party, he was elected to serve the 2nd Congressional District of Colorado in the U.S. House of Representatives. During his 5 terms in office he served on the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee. He was instrumental in the passing of the Indian Peaks Wilderness Act, a national program to help runaway youth and establishing a tax credit for higher education expenses. He also helped shape the Clean Air Act and the Public Broadcasting Act. Mr. Brotzman was an early champion of stronger environmental oversight at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal, and due to his efforts, the Johnson administration commissioned a scientific study which led to the eventual cleanup and closure of this site.

He was also one of the first members to call for an all-volunteer army and the end of the draft during the Vietnam War. After serving in Congress, Mr. Brotzman was able to assist in the establishment of the all-volunteer army when he was named Assistant Secretary to the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs by President Ford. He served in this position for two years and explained his job as making "the all-volunteer army work."

In the Colorado State Legislature, Congress and two Republican Administrations, Mr. Brotzman served our country and Colorado well. His dedication to acting on his conscience and working on both sides of the aisle to better serve Colorado made him a leader in Congress.

Donald Brotzman died in September at the age of 82. During his lifetime he admirably served both his country and the state of Colorado. I would like to thank my colleagues from Colorado for their support of this bill and Chairman DAVIS and Ranking Member WAXMAN of the Government Reform Committee as well as the leadership of the House for making it possible for the bill to be considered today. I urge the passage of this bill.

THE 2-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE NORTHERN MICHIGAN HOSPITAL NURSES STRIKE

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, November 20, 2004

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, this week marks the 2-year anniversary of the strike of the nurses at Northern Michigan Hospital in Petoskey, MI, which began on November 14, 2002. This strike is now the longest nurses' strike in our nation's history.

Sadly, today many of these nurses have to travel to different communities to work. This strike has impacted local health care, and left a community divided. It needs to be resolved soon. This strike is even costing the hospital. NMH had an operating loss of over \$11 million dollars, largely because of \$14 million spent on replacement nurses.

Over the past 2 years, the hospital administration has shown clearly that its objection to bargaining demands by the striking nurses is not a matter of cost, but of opposition to union representation. The bottom line is these

nurses have voted twice for union representation, and they have a legal right to a contract. I will always support the right of employees to organize and to collectively bargain with their employers.

Since the beginning of this strike, I have visited the nurses on the picket lines, met with the hospital administration, and held a town hall meeting in Petoskey.

I have worked well with NMH over my 12 years in office and I have visited their facilities numerous times. It is time to bring back the experienced nurses who provided quality care at NMH for so long, and I urge the NMH administration to join the nurses and agree to binding arbitration or any other independent means so the community can move forward and heal.

Every employee has the right to collectively come together, to unionize if they choose, and to address employment concerns with their employer. When labor disputes polarize the parties and negotiations break down, it is the responsibility of community residents and leaders to let each side know how they feel and to encourage both sides to stay engaged in meaningful discussions to resolve their differences. Any strike, any disruption of employment of any industry, divides and hurts the very fabric that composes any community. The NMH strike has torn at the very heart of the Petoskey area. It is time to end the division and reconcile the community, beginning with NMH.

SONNY'S GRILL ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, November 20, 2004

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, Mr. BURR, Mr. BALLENGER and Mr. COBLE join me in recognizing December 13, 2004 as the 50th Anniversary of Sonny's Grill in Blowing Rock, North Carolina.

Half a century ago, on December 13, 1954, the late Sonny Klutz opened the door for a small-town eatery on Blowing Rock's Main Street. For five decades that three table, eight stool restaurant has been the eating and meeting place for locals, tourists and after school children. Only the sweet potato pancakes, ham or sausage biscuits, livermush, hamburger and other variety of country cooking surpass the wonderful mixture of Sonny's Grill's customers and conversations.

With a storefront suspended in time, whatever Sonny's lacks in decor is made up in the warmth of easygoing folks who work and dine there. On the edge of the magnificent Blue Ridge Mountains, in the center of a beautiful small town, Blowing Rock, Sonny's Grill, and the good fellowship it has provided for half a century, is at the heart of what makes America great.

Congratulations to Sonny Klutz's widow, Mrs. Lavaughn Klutz, manager Robert Cheves and all the wonderful staff and patrons of Sonny's Grill on this special occasion.

TRIBUTE TO EDWARD M.
AUGUSTUS, JR.

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, November 20, 2004

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, today we will close another chapter in the history of this great institution when we adjourn the 108th Session of Congress. The end of every session is always an occasion to pause and reflect, however that is especially true for me today because it also marks the last session that I will have the special privilege of Ed Augustus as my Chief of Staff.

To a great extent, all of us in elected office ultimately succeed or fail based upon the people we choose to surround ourselves with. As a former congressional staffer, I know well where the heavy lifting is done in meeting the daily demands of serving the public and discharging the duties of this office. With that in mind, I consider myself truly blessed to have had Ed Augustus as my Chief of Staff for these past six years. During that time, I have routinely relied on his wise counsel, depended on his keen instincts and trusted his good judgment in directing all aspects of my congressional office.

I have called on Ed to perform some extraordinary tasks during his tenure. In each and every instance, he has performed magnificently. Most notably, he coordinated President Clinton's historic visit to the City of Worcester, Massachusetts in 1998 and then the federal relief efforts for the same city following the tragic death of six firefighters a year later. Ed was also instrumental in resolving two very difficult labor disputes that threatened nursing care and public transportation for thousands of Central Massachusetts residents, and played a pivotal role in promoting numerous economic development initiatives that are right now improving the quality of life for families all across my congressional district.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to being an exceptional Chief of Staff, Ed Augustus is one of the most thoroughly decent people I know. He possesses a boundless reservoir of compassion and a genuine desire to help those in need. He is a devoted son, loving brother, proud uncle and the most loyal friend a person could ask for. And so, while I am sad to see him leave his position on my staff, I am gratified to know that he will be serving an equally important purpose in the future.

On January 5, 2005, Edward Michael Augustus, Jr. will be sworn in as a member of the Massachusetts State Senate, and instantly that distinguished body will be made better by his presence. The people of the Second Worcester District could not have found a more able and dedicated public servant to represent their interests on Beacon Hill if they had searched the world over. In fact, all citizens of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts stand to gain immensely from the tremendous contributions Ed will undoubtedly make to public discourse and debate in our great state. School children in particular will soon discover an eloquent and powerful champion for the cause of improving public education all across the Commonwealth.

Mr. Speaker, Ed Augustus will be a great leader in the Massachusetts Legislature because he has entered politics for the right reason—to help people. I believe public service is